

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A hand-held power tool, comprising:
2 a housing including a drive mechanism and motor provided with a
3 rotary output shaft aligned along a tool axis and a handle portion aligned along a
4 handle axis, the handle portion having a motor activator switch mounted thereon; and
5 an open top tray oriented generally perpendicular to the handle axis for
6 carrying small magnetic objects therein, wherein the tray is provided with a magnetic
7 portion for retaining the small magnetic objects placed within the tray when the handle
8 is inclined from a vertical position.
- 1 2. The hand-held power tool of claim 1, wherein the open top tray
2 has at least one exterior side wall having at least one recess, the at least one recess
3 including a detent for releasibly retaining a bit therein.
- 1 3. The hand-held power tool of claim 1, wherein the open top tray
2 is defined by a surrounding sidewall and a tray bottom which are integrally molded
3 with the housing.
- 1 4. The hand-held power tool of claim 1, wherein the open top tray
2 is configured to be removable from the housing by providing a housing with at least
3 one slot formed therein for releasibly affixing the tray to the housing.
- 1 5. The hand-held power tool of claim 4, wherein the at least one
2 slot is configured to releasibly engage a tool or drill bit when the tray is not received
3 in the slot.
- 1 6. The hand-held power tool of claim 1, further comprising a light
2 attached to the tray for illuminating an area forward of the power tool.
- 1 7. The hand-held power tool of claim 6, wherein the housing
2 further comprises a housing electrical contact for communicating electrical energy
3 from a power source to the light.

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1 8. The hand-held power tool of claim 6, wherein the light is
2 pivotaly mounted to the tray for directing illumination forward of the power tool.

1 9. The hand-held power tool of claim 8, wherein electrical energy
2 for energizing the light is interrupted when the light is pivoted between an active open
3 position and an inactive closed position.

1 10. The hand-held power tool of claim 9, wherein the tray further
2 comprises a tray electrical contact configured to mate with the housing electrical
3 contact for communicating electrical energy from a power source to the light.

1 11. The hand-held power tool of claim 1, wherein the hand-held
2 power tool is a portable electric power drill, having a chuck coupled to the rotary
3 output shaft for releasibly fixing a bit thereto, whereby the bit is used to operate on a
4 workpiece, and a battery attached to the housing and in electrical communication with
5 the motor for providing electrical power to drive the motor.

1 12. The hand-held power tool of claim 1, further comprising a
2 level attached to the tray for aiding in orienting the hand-held power tool with respect
3 to a ground surface.

1 13. The hand-held power tool of claim 1, further comprising a
2 detachable level removably fixed to the housing for determining a relative orientation
3 of the hand-held power tool with respect to a ground surface.

1 14. A portable electric power drill, comprising:
2 a housing including a drive mechanism and motor provided with a
3 rotary output shaft aligned along a tool axis and a handle portion aligned along a
4 handle axis, the handle portion having a motor activator switch mounted thereon;
5 a chuck coupled to the rotary output shaft for releasibly fixing a bit
6 thereto, wherein the bit is used to operate on a workpiece;

7 a battery attached to the housing and in electrical communication with
8 the motor for providing electrical power to drive the motor; and

9 an open top tray oriented generally perpendicular to the handle axis for
10 carrying small magnetic objects therein, wherein the tray is provided with a magnetic
11 portion for retaining the small magnetic objects placed within the tray when the handle
12 is inclined from a vertical position.

1 15. The portable electric power drill of claim 14, wherein the open
2 top tray is defined by a surrounding sidewall and a tray bottom which are integrally
3 molded with the housing.

1 16. The portable electric power drill of claim 14, wherein the open
2 top tray is configured to be removable from the housing by providing a housing with
3 at least one slot formed therein for releasibly affixing the tray to the housing.

1 17. The portable electric power drill of claim 14, wherein the open
2 top tray has at least one exterior side wall having at least one recess, the at least one
3 recess including a detent for releasibly retaining a bit therein.

1 18. The portable electric power drill of claim 14, wherein the
2 housing is provided with at least one slot formed therein for removably receiving and
3 affixing the tray to the housing.

1 19. The portable electric power drill of claim 18, wherein the at least
2 one slot is configured to releasibly engage a bit when the tray is not received in the slot.

1 20. The portable electric power drill of claim 14, further comprising
2 a light attached to the tray for illuminating an area forward of the power tool.

1 21. The portable electric power drill of claim 20, wherein the
2 housing further comprises a housing electrical contact for communicating electrical
3 energy from a power source to the light.

1 22. The portable electric power drill of claim 21, wherein the tray
2 further comprises a tray electrical contact configured to mate with the housing
3 electrical contact for communicating electrical energy from a power source to the light.

1 23. The portable electric power drill of claim 21, wherein the light
2 is pivotally mounted to the tray for directing illumination forward of the power tool.

1 24. The portable electric power drill of claim 23, wherein electrical
2 energy for energizing the light is interrupted when the light is pivoted between an
3 active open position and an inactive closed position.

1 25. The portable electrical power drill of claim 14, further
2 comprising a level attached to the tray for aiding in orienting the drill with respect
3 to a ground surface.

1 26. The portable electric power drill of claim 14, further comprising
2 a detachable level removably fixed to the housing for determining a relative
3 orientation of the drill with respect to a ground surface.

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